



Lee County Social Service Programs 2014

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TYPE OF SERVICES: Services provided by Lee County Social Services can be divided into two broad categories – financial assistance and social services.

PHONE: (919) 718-4690 • Fax- (919) 718-4634

ADDRESS: 530 Carthage Street, Sanford, N.C. 27330 • P. O. Box 1066, Sanford, N.C. 27331

COST: Free (unless a fee set by the Social Service Board or County Commissioners)

Financial

Work First Family Assistance - Temporary assistance for needy families (WFFA). Eligible families get a monthly check or a one-time payment when the family has children (under 18 or expected to graduate prior to turning 19) that meet a certain degree of relationship to the adults applying. Consideration given to countable income, that must be at or less than a certain percent of the poverty level and resources/liquid assets must be below certain levels. This program also provides Medicaid that assists with medical care to those family members.

Medical Assistance (Medicaid) - This program helps families or individuals (disabled/aged) with medical bills (doctor fees, prescription drugs, hospital charges, nursing home care, etc.). All programs have an income limit and some coverage programs have resource limits. If eligible, Medicaid can also cover unpaid medical bills for the three months prior to your month of application.

N.C. Health Choice - Health insurance coverage for the children who do not qualify for Medicaid and whose family income is under 200% of poverty. This program requires a yearly \$50 enrollment fee for a family with 1 child or \$100 for 2 or more when the family income is over 150% of poverty. There is a small co-payment for some of the services provided by N.C. Health Choice.

Food and Nutrition Services - Supplements low income families/individuals to buy adequate food for proper diets. Households must pass an income and resource test. Allotments are computed based on income, certain household expenses, living arrangements and household size. Eligible households receive an EBT card (electronic debit card) that they use to purchase food. The EBT card can be swiped at grocery merchants similar to a credit card.

State-County Special Assistance for Adults- A cash supplement to help low-income individuals residing in adult care homes (such as rest homes) pay for their care. Adult care homes are unlike nursing homes in that medical care is not provided by home staff. Designated staff may administer medications and provide personal care services such as assistance with bathing, eating, and dressing

Child Support Enforcement - This program seeks to establish paternity, establish child support orders, enforce orders, collect payments, and obtain medical insurance from absent parents.

Crisis Intervention Program - This program is for low-income households in a heating or cooling-related life-threatening emergency. This program has limited funding but normally the allocation last most of the year unless there are extreme low and high temperatures.

Low Income Energy Assistance Program - This program provides assistance to low-income households to help with the cost of heating. Applications are taken on a staggered period beginning in December for households with elderly or certain type members served first and remaining households beginning in January, if funds still available. Payments are made directly to the heating source vendor.

Energy Neighbor Energy and CEMC Project Share - This program is for households in a heating or cooling related emergency when service is provided by Energy Neighbor and Central Electric Membership Corporation. These programs have income limits and authorization is based on funding availability.

Jim Garner Fuel Fund for the Elderly - A program run strictly on contributions from the community. These funds are used to provide heating or cooling for the elderly that are living on fixed incomes. The program is expanded, when contributions allow, assisting this same elderly group with prescriptions.

Child Day Care - This program provides authorization for child day care expenses for low-income families that are employed, attending school, protective service's cases, and Work First Families. There are different eligibility requirements based on the reason for the need for child day care. Parents can expect to have a parent fee each month for their portion of the day care expense.

Social Services

Work First Employment Services - Purpose of this program is to assist Work First recipients in becoming self-sufficient through job training and education, with emphasis on job placement.

Child Services – Recruitment, training and licensing of foster/adoptive parents, conduct independent adoptions, supervision of adoptive placement, home studies for relative adoptions. Supervision of dependent children in foster care with the focus on return to family or other permanency situations, i.e. adoption, guardian, custody. Investigations or assessment of families where abuse/neglect/dependency has been alleged. Treatment (case management) for families where abuse/neglect/dependency has been established.

Youth Work Permits – Issue employment certificates to children under the regulations of the State Department of Labor. Forms can be picked up at Social Services or printed from the Internet. After the employer completes the form, it must be brought to Social Services. The permit must be signed by the minor in front of the social service's staff issuing permits. The minor must bring with them their birth certificate or a legal picture identification.

Adult Services – Services include In-Home Aide Services, Home Management services, long term care, Adult Day Care (day care for adults), Nursing and Adult Care Home placement, respite services, case management for adults at risk for abuse, neglect or exploitation, adult protective services, Adult Care Home case management for those individuals in area facilities requiring enhanced care and supervising/monitoring adult care homes/family care homes under the licensure rules and regulations of the Division of Facility Services. Provide guardianship services for individuals found incompetent and there is no family or individual capable, suitable or willing to serve.

Community Alternative Program (CAP)- A Medicaid waiver program, which provides an alternative to nursing home placement for those eligible persons.

SA In-home- Individuals must have income below the federal poverty level, be eligible for Medicaid and otherwise eligible for Special Assistance, have an FL-2 indicating a need for Adult Care Home level of care, have an assessment and service plan that indicates the individual can live safely at home with services.

Aid to the Blind - Aid for people, who are not eligible for Medicaid, but need aid in getting eye exams and eye glasses; social work services for the blind. Appointments are necessary.

Disaster Assistance- Provide assistance to American Red Cross and Emergency Management in the event of a disaster. Functions would include registration of residents of shelters, management of the shelters and providing services to shelter residents.

Disposition of Unclaimed Bodies- When Lee County residents expire and the bodies are not claimed for burial by friends or family, social services must dispose of the bodies. This disposition does not include a funeral or burial.

Voter Registration- Register to vote all individuals applying for benefits, recertifying their benefits, or updating an address at a public assistance agency.

Fishing License Waiver- Issue Residential Subsistence Inland/Coastal Recreational Fishing License Waivers for recipients of Medicaid, Food Stamps and Work First Family Assistance.